

Revised Edition

MAKING OUT IN ♂ IN ♀ CHINESE

From everyday conversation to the
language of love—a guide to
Chinese as it's really spoken!

by Ray Daniels

Learn to speak the colloquial language the Chinese really use with *Making Out in Chinese*. This best-selling phrase book has now been completely revised to be even more helpful as a guide to the modern Chinese spoken in everyday interactions—but still giving access to lots of colorful, colloquial expressions not covered in other phrase books.

Making Out in Chinese features a pronunciation guide and notes on Chinese language and culture. The phrases are organized according to typical encounters, including:

- * Making acquaintances
- * Discussing likes and dislikes
- * Sharing a meal
- * Going out on the town
- * Developing a romantic relationship

In addition to the Hanyu Pinyin and romanized forms of phrases, each expression is now also given in Chinese script so that you can show the book to the person you are speaking to. *Making Out in Chinese* will bring you a new level of fluency and communication in Chinese!

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Making Out in Chinese

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by Ray Daniels
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Contents

Introduction	4
1. Basic Phrases	8
2. Getting Acquainted	24
3. Shooting the Breeze	47
4. Eat, Drink, Be Merry!	56
5. Curses and Insults	62
6. On the Phone	74
7. Lovers' Language	77
8. Vogue Expressions	93

Introduction

The idea behind *Making Out in Chinese* is to aid those who wish to speak real Chinese rather than the dry textbook style taught all over the world. No one really speaks textbook English, and the same is true of Chinese, so why not make out using real everyday Chinese? This book will save students valuable study time so that they can quickly move on to communicate naturally. I hope you will be successful in your attempts at making out in Chinese!

INFORMATION

Customs, habits, and traditions vary greatly throughout the world, and the traveler must take this into consideration when encountering other cultures. In my travels throughout China, I have often heard the expression: *Nǐmǎn shīfāng rén hǔn kāifàng*. *Wǒmǎn jōngguó rén hǔnbówshǒ* (You Westerners are very liberal. We Chinese are very conservative). The forwardness of Western men and women, particularly in dealings with the opposite sex, has left many Chinese with the impression that Westerners are lacking in morals. If you are amorously interested in a Chinese, or just want to make friends, an indirect approach is recommended. It's better to give subtle hints about your feelings rather than just come out with them directly. The more subtle you are, the more well-intentioned you will seem.

The phrases in this book will be comprehensible in all Chinese-speaking countries. However, the degree of openness, especially in sexual matters, differs from country to country. My own personal ranking, from most liberal to most conservative, is as follows: Hong Kong, mainland China, Macao, Taiwan, Singapore,

Malaysia. My high ranking of mainland China may surprise some, but a great deal of openness is due to the number of Chinese seeking a foreign partner (and passport!).

PRONUNCIATION TIPS

All words in Chinese have a tone, and an incorrect tonal pronunciation can greatly change a word's meaning. For example:

The first tone (ˉ): The word *mā* spoken with first tone means "mother." The first tone is an even pitched sound, almost like singing.

Second tone (ˊ): The word *má* with second tone means "hemp." The second tone rises, like one would say the word "right?"

Third tone (ˇ): The word *mǎ* spoken with the third tone means "horse." It is pronounced with a lowering of the voice.

Fourth tone (ˋ): The word *mà* with fourth tone means "to scold" (for instance, if one were to reprimand someone, one would *mà!* the said individual). The fourth tone is spoken sharply, like the word "Damn!"

There is one more tone, *mǎo*, referred to by the Chinese as "light sound," which indicates that the syllable should be spoken like the fourth tone pronunciation of the word "Damn!" except shorter (as if the speaker had tried to say "Damn" but only had time to pronounce the "da").

I advise the reader not to worry about the tones but to focus on the phonetic transcriptions which have been written so that English speakers can pronounce them easily. Just as English is spoken with different accents, so is Chinese; learners of Chinese must therefore develop an ear for the language.

CONSONANTS

The following offers a guide to the pronunciation of the standard *Hanyu Pinyin* system of romanization, which is used almost all over the world.

Most consonants are pronounced as in English.

<u>Chinese</u>	<u>English</u>
c	its
q	ch eat (said with a puff of air)
r	urn
x	sea
z	bits
ch	ch urch (said with one's tongue rolled back and with a puff of air)
sh	sh it (said with one's tongue rolled back)
zh	j erk (said with one's tongue rolled back)

VOWELS

<u>Chinese</u>	<u>English</u>
a	f ather
e	h en
i	pin (A simple "i" is pronounced as "e" in he)
o	g o
u	j uly
ü	f eu d (said with rounded lips)
ao	h ow
ei	h ay
ou	n o (said with a slight pull)
ui	w ait

The more challenging combinations are as follows:

ci	its
qi	chip
si	swing
zi	bits

The "i" in *ci*, *si* and *zi* is silent.

In the subsequent sections of the book, the *Hanyu Pinyin* system of romanization is presented on the right with phonetic transcriptions given below it. Phonetic transcriptions are included to cue you in on the English equivalent of a speech sound in the *Hanyu Pinyin* system.

TENSES

Tenses are expressed simply in Chinese. If you want to express that you already did something, you can add the word *lǚh* at the end of the sentence. If you wish to express that you will do something, you can use the words *jiāng huà*y. For example, "I will go" is *Wǒ jiāng huà*y *chìu*. A sentence can also be made past or future by the use of time words such as *míng tiān* (tomorrow) or *dzuó tiān* (yesterday). Time is usually mentioned at the beginning of a sentence. For example, "I will go tomorrow" is *Wǒ míng tiān chìu*; "I went yesterday" is *Wǒ dzuó tiān chìu lǚh*.

Basic Phrases

1

Who?

谁?

Shéi?

(Sháy?)

What?

什么?

Shén me?

(Shém-mǔh?)

Where?

哪里?

Ná lǐ?

(Nár-lǐ?)

When?

什么时候?

Shén me shí hòu?

(Shém-mǔh shér-hò?)

Why?

为什么?

Wèi shén me?

(Wày shém-mǔh?)

How?

怎么样?

Zěn me yàng?

(Dzēm mǔh yàng?)

Whose?

谁的?

Shuí de?

(Sháy dǔh?)

This

这个

Zhè ge

(Jùh-gǔh)

That

那个

Nà ge

(Nàh-gǔh)

Here

这里。

Zhè lǐ

(Jùh-lǐ)

There

那里

Nà lǐ

(Nàh-lǐ)

If

如果

Rú guǒ

(Rú-guǒ)

But 但是	Dàn shì (Dèn-shèr)
However 可是	Kě shì (Kǔh shèr)
Nevertheless 不过	Bú guò (Bú-guò)
Because 因为	Yīn wéi (īng-wáy)
Thus 那么	Nà me (Nàh-mǔh)
So, therefore 所以	Suó yì (Suó-ǐ)
Yes 是的	Shì de (Shèr dǔh)
The verb "to be" 是	Shì (Shèr)
No 不 不是的	Bù (Bù) Bú shì de (Bú shèr dǔh)



Maybe

可能

Kě néng

(Kǔh núng)

Maybe not

可能不是

Kě néng bú shì

(Kǔh-núng bú shèr)

I

我

Wǒ.

(Wǎ)

You

你。

Nǐ

(Nǐ)

He/She/It

他 / 她 / 它

Tā

(Tā)

We

我们

Wǒ men

(Wǒ-mě)

You (plural)

你们

Nǐ men

(Nǐ-mě)

They

他们 / 她们 / 它们

Tā men

(Tā-mě)

Don't ...

不要

Bú yào...

(Bú yòw...)

I would like to

我想...

Wó xiǎng...

(Wó shiǎng...)

I don't want to

我不想...

Wǒ bù xiǎng....

(Wǒ bù shiǎng...)

Hear, listen

听

Tīng

(Tīng)

See, look

看

Kàn

(Kàn)

Smell

闻

Wén

(Wén)

Touch. 摸	Mō (Mō)
Listen to me! 听我说!	Tīng wǒ shuō! (Tīng wǒ shuō!)
Have you seen Lee? 你看到李了吗?	Nǐ kàn dào lǐ le ma? (Nǐ kàn dào lǐ le mǎ?)
I saw Lee. 我看到李了。	Wǒ kàn dào lǐ le. (Wǒ kàn dào lǐ le lǚh.)
I want to go and see you! 我想去看你!	Wó xiǎng qù kàn nǐ! (Wó shiǎng chiu kàn nǐ!)
I want meet you! 我想见你!	Wó xiǎng jiàn nǐ! (Wó shiǎng jièn nǐ!)
I'll show it to you. 我给你看。	Wó géi nǐ kàn. (Wó gáy nǐ kàn.)
Please (polite) 请	Qǐng (Chǐng)
Please (begging) 拜托	Bài tuō (Bàì-tuō)
Also means "please" as in "What do you take me for?"	
Thank you. 谢谢。	Xiè xie. (Shièh-shièh.)



You're welcome.

不谢。

Bú-xiè.

(Bú-shièh.)

Don't mention it.

不客气。

Bú kè qì.

(Bú kùh-chèe.)

Where is the toilet?

厕所在哪儿?

Cè suǒ zài nǎ ér?

(Tsè-suó zài nǎ?)

Where is the washroom?

洗手间在哪儿?

Xí shǒu jiān zài nǎ ér?

(Shí shǒu jiān zài nǎ?)

What is this?

这是什么?

Zhè shì shén me?

(Jùh shèr shém-mǔh?)

What is this/that called?

这个 / 那个叫什么?

Zhè ge/Nà ge jiào shén me?

(Jùh-gǔh/Nàh-gǔh jiào shém-mǔh?)

What does ... mean?

...是什么意思?

... shì shén me yì sī?

(... shèr shém-mǔh ì-sǐ?)

How do you pronounce this?

这个怎么念?

Zhè ge zěn me niàn?

(Jùh gǔh dzěm-mǔh nièn?)

I have a question.

我有一个问题。

Wó yǒu yí ge wèn tí.

(Wó yǒ í-gǔh wèn-tí.)



Do you understand?

懂不懂?

Dǒng bu dǒng?

(Dǒng bù dǒng?)

Are you clear about it?

你明白吗?

Nǐ míng-bai ma?

(Nǐ míng-bǎi ma?)

I don't understand.

我不懂。

Wǒ bù dǒng.

(Wǒ bù dǒng.)

I am not clear (on this matter)

我不明白。

Wǒ bù míng bai.

(Wǒ bù míng-bǎi.)

I know.

我明白。

Wǒ míng bai.

(Wǒ míng-bǎi.)

I understand.

我懂。

Wó dǒng.

(Wó dǒng.)

Please explain.

请解释。

Qíng jiě shì.

(Chíng jiě shèr.)

Please clarify.

请说明。

Qǐng shuō míng.

(Chíng shuō míng.)

Complex

复杂

Fù zá

(Fù-záh)

Simple, easy

简单

Jiǎn dān

(Jiǎn-dān)

Difficult

困难

kùn nan

(Kwèn-nǎn)

No wonder.

怪不得。

Guài bù dé.

(Guài bù dúh.)

It's obvious.

很明显。

Hěn míng xiǎn.

(Hǔn míng shiǎn.)

I know.

我知道。

Wǒ zhī dào.

(Wǒ jē-dòw.)

I don't know.

我不知道。

Wǒ bù zhī dào.

(Wǒ bù jīr-dòw.)

I forgot.

我忘记了。

Wǒ wàng jì le.

(Wǒ wàng-jì lǚh.)

I remember.

我记得。

Wǒ jì de.

(Wǒ jì dǚh.)

Tell me.

告诉我。

Gào sù wǒ.

(Gòw-sù wǎ)

What did you say?

你说什么?

Nǐ shuō shén me?

(Nǐ shuō shém-mǔh?)

Is it OK?

好不好?

Hǎo bu hǎo?

(Hǎw bǔ hǎw?)

Is it acceptable?

可以吗?

Ké yǐ ma?

(Kúh-í mǎ?)

Can you do it?

行吗?

Xíng ma?

(Shíng mǎ?)

No way (you don't have permission).

不行!

Bù xíng!

(Bù shíng!)





Have permission.

行。

Xíng.
(Shíng.)

Either is fine.

都可以。

Dōu ké yǐ.
(Dōh kúh-í.)

Is this right?

对不对?

Duì bu duì?
(Dwày bú dwày?)

Right

对。

Duì
(Dwày)

By the way.

顺便说。

Shùn biàn shuō.
(Shuèn-bièn shuō.)

Wrong

不对

Bú duì
(Bú dwày)

Success

成功

Chéng gōng
(Chúng gōng)

Failure

失败

Shī bài
(Shēr bài)

Almost

几乎

Jǐ hū
(Í-hǔ)

Same

一样

Yí yàng
(Í-yàng)

About the same.

差不多。

Chā bù duō.
(Chā bù-duō.)

Imitate

模仿

Mó fǎng

(Muó fǎng)

I'm in trouble!

我有麻烦了!

Wó yǒu má fan le!

(Wó yǒu má-fǎn lǚh!)

What's wrong with you?

你怎么了?

Ní zěn me le?

(Ní dzěm-mǔh lǚh?)

What's wrong?

有什么问题?

Yóu shén me wèn tí?

(Yóu shém-mǔh wèn-tí?)

Nothing's wrong!

没问题吧。

Méi wèn tí ba.

(Máy wèn-tí bǎ.)

You aren't hurt, are you?

你没事吧?

Nǐ méi shì ba?

(Nǐ máy shèr bǎ?)

Do you need help?

你需要帮助吗?

Nǐ xū yào bāng zhù ma?

(Nǐ shīu yòw bāng-jù mǎ?)

I need help.

我需要帮助。

Wǒ xū yào bāng zhù.

(Wǒ shīu yòw bāng-jù.)

I don't need help.

我不需要帮助。

Wǒ bù xū yào bāng zhù.

(Wǒ bù shīu yòw bāng-jù.)

I'll help you do it.

我帮你做?

Wǒ bāng nǐ zuò.

(Wǒ bāng nǐ dzuò.)

Help me.

帮我一下?

Bāng wǒ yí xià.

(Bāng wǒ í-shiàh.)

Help!

救命!

Jiù mìng!

(Jiòu-mìng!)

Be careful!

小心!

Xiǎo xīn!

(Shiǎu shīn!)

Dangerous!

危险!

Wēi xiǎn!

(Wāy-shiǎn!)

Careless

不小心

Bù xiǎo xīn

(Bù shiǎo shīn)

I'm sick.

我病了。

Wǒ bìng le.

(Wǒ bìng lǚh.)

Where's the hospital?

医院在哪儿?

Yī yuàn zài nǎ ér?

(Yī-yuèn zài nǎr?)

How much?

多少?

Duō shǎo?

(Duō shǎu?)

Buy it!

买下来!

Mǎi xià lái!

(Mǎi shiàh lái!)

I don't want to buy it.

我不想买。

Wǒ bù xiǎng mǎi.

(Wǒ bù shiǎng mǎi.)

It's too expensive!

太贵了。

Tài guì le!

(Tài guàiy lǚh!)

Very poor quality.

很烂。

质量不好。

Hěn làn.

(Hǔn làn.)

Zhì liàng bù hǎo.

(Jǐ liàng bù hǎw.)



Give me a better price.

算便宜点。

Suàn pián yì diǎn.

(Swàn pién-ì diǎn.)

Do you want it?

要不要?

Yào bù yào?

(Yòw bù yòw?)

I want ...

我要...

Wǒ yào...

(Wó yòw...)

I don't want ...

我不要...

Wǒ bú yào...

(Wǒ bú yòw...)

Please give me change.

请给我换零钱。

Qǐng géi wǒ huàn líng qián.

(Chǐng gáy wǒ huàn líng-chián.)

Enough?

够了吗?

Gòu le ma?

(Gò lǚh mǎ?)

Enough.

够了。

Gòu le.

(Gò lǚh.)

Not enough.

不够。

Bú gòu.

(Bú gò.)

Satisfied?

满意吗?

Mǎn yì ma?

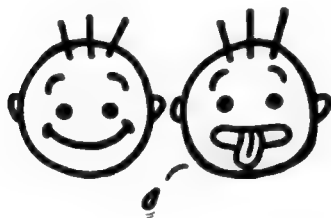
(Mǎn-ì mǎ?)

Satisfied.

满意。

Mǎn yì.

(Mǎn-ì.)



Not satisfied.

不满意。

Bù mǎn yì.

(Bù mǎn-ì.)

Separate

分开

Fēn kāi

(Fēn-kāi)

Put together.

放在一起。

Fàng zài yì qǐ.

(Fàng zài ì-chǐ.)

All together.

一共。

Yí gòng.

(Í-gòng.)

It's OK (acceptable).

还可以。

Hái ké yǐ.

(Hái kúh-í.)

Give it to me.

给我。

Géi wǒ.

(Gáy wǒ.)

Here, take it.

拿去吧。

Ná qù ba.

(Náh chiù bà.)

Hold this.

拿着。

Ná zhe.

(Náh jǔh.)

I have ...

我有…。

Wó yǒu...

(Wó yǒ...)

I don't have ...

我没有…。

Wǒ méi yǒu...

(Wó máy yǒ...)

What's next?

接下来呢？

Jiē xià lái ne.

(Jiēh shiàh lái nǚh?)

Last time.

上次。

Shàng cì.

(Shàng ts.)

This time.

这次。

Zhèi cì.

(Jày ts.)

Next time.

下次。

Xià cì.

(Shiàh ts.)

A long time ago.

很久以前。

Hén jiǔ yǐ qián.

(Hún jiǒǔ ĭ-chién.)

Just a moment ago.

刚才。

Gāng cái.

(Gāng tsái.)

After

以后

Yǐ hòu

(ĭ-hò)

Before

以前

Yǐ qián

(ĭ-chién)

Time

时间

Shí jiān

(Shí jĕn)

What time? (When?)

什么时候?

Shén me shí hòu?

(Shém-mǔh shér-hò?)

What time is it (now)?

现在几点了?

Xiàn zài jí diǎn le?

(Shièn zài jí-diĕn lǚh?)

Sometimes

有时候

yǒu shí hòu

(Yǒ shér-hò)

Always

经常

Jīng cháng

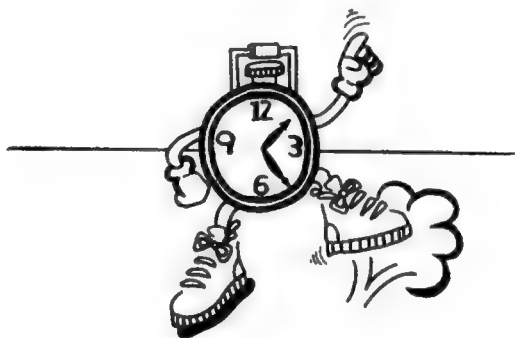
(jīng-cháng)

Seldom

很少

Hén shǎo

(Hún shǎo)



Occasionally

偶尔

Óu'ěr

(Ó-ér)

Never

从来没有

Cóng lái méi yǒu

(Tsóng lái máy yǒ)

Not even once.

一次都没有。

Yí chì dōu méi yǒu.

(Í-ts dōh máy yǒ.)

At long last/finally

总算

Zǒng suàn

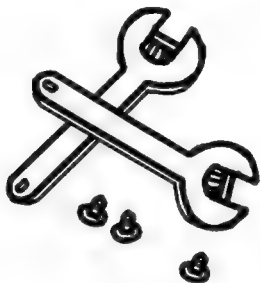
(Jǒng Swàn)

Forever

永远

Yóng yuǎn

(Yóng yuǎn)

**Please fix**

请修理…。

Qǐng xiūlǐ... .

(Chǐng shiōū-lǐ... .)

Of course.

当然。

Dāng rán.

(Dāng rán.)

Convenient.

方便。

Fāng biàn.

(Fāng-bièn)

Not convenient.

不方便。

Bù fāng biàn.

(Bù fāng-bièn.)

Definitely/For sure.

一定。

Yí dìng.

(í-dīng.)

Not definitely/Not necessarily.

不一定。

Bù yí dīng.

(Bù í-dīng.)

It's impossible.

不可能。

Bù kě néng.

(Bù kǔh-núg.)

It's possible.

可能。

Kě néng.

(Kǔh-núg.)

No patience.

没耐心。

Méi nài xīn.

(Máy nài shīn.)

No confidence.

没信心。

Méi xìn xīn.

(Máy shīn shīn.)

Don't worry!

不要担心。

Bú yào dān xīn!

(Bú yòw dān shīn!)

Be happy!

高兴一点。

Gāo xìng yì diǎn!

(Gāu-shìng ì-diǎn!)

Happy Birthday!

生日快乐!

Shēng rì kuài lè!

(Shēng rì kwài-lùh!)

Happy

高兴

Gāo xìng

(Gāu-shìng)

Lucky

幸运

Xīng yùn

(Shìng Yuèn)





Unlucky

倒霉

Dǎo méi
(Dǎo-máy)

Unfortunate

不幸

Bú xìng
(Bú shìng)

Getting Acquainted 2

What's your family name? Nín guì xìng?
您贵姓? (Nín guày shìng?)

This is a very polite way to ask someone's name and should be said when meeting someone for the first time. *Nín* is an especially polite form of "you," and *guày* means "honorable."

What's your name? Nǐ jiào shén me míng zì?
你叫什么名字? (Nǐ jiào shén-měi míng-zì?)

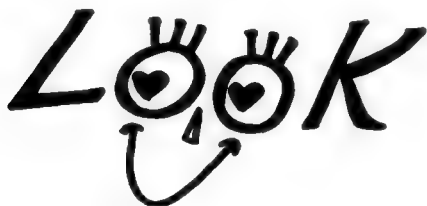
Hi, how's it going? Nǐ hǎo ma?
你好吗? (Nǐ hǎo ma?)

How are you? Zěn me yàng?
怎么样? (Děm-měi yàng?)

How have you been lately? Nǐ zuì jìn zěn me yàng?
你最近怎么样? (Nǐ zuì jìn dēng-měi yàng?)

I'm fine. Wó hén hǎo.
我很好。 (Wó hén hǎo.)

I'm happy. Wó hěn kuài lè.
我很快乐。 (Wó hén kuài lè.)





I feel sad.

我觉得难过。

Wǒ jué de nán guò.
(Wǒ juáy-dǔh nán-guò.)

I feel tired.

我觉得累。

Wǒ jué de lèi.
(Wǒ juáy-dǔh lày.)

I've got a headache.

我头疼。

Wǒ tóu téng.
(Wǒ tó túng.)

I feel sick.

我觉得不舒服。

Wǒ jué de bù shū-fu.
(Wǒ juáy dǔh bù shū-fǔ.)

I'm sleepy.

我想睡觉。

Wó xiǎng shuì jiào.
(Wó shiǎng shuày-jiòw.)

What have you been up to lately?

最近忙什么?

Zuì jìn máng shén me?
(Dzuày jìn máng shém-mǔh?)

Long time no see.

好久不见。

Háo jiǔ bú jiàn.
(Hów jioǔ bú-jièn.)

This statement was originally a Chinese expression and has become an English one. It is a literal translation.

My Chinese/English is poor. Wǒ-de zhōng-wén/yīng-wén
我的中文 / 英文不好。bù hǎo.

(Wó-dǔh jōng-wén/īng-wén bù
hǎw.)



Please speak in English.

请讲英文。

Qíng jiǎng yīng wén.

(Chíng jiǎng īng-wén.)

Please speak in Chinese.

请讲中文。

Qíng jiǎng zhōng wén.

(Chíng jiǎng jōng-wén.)

Please speak slower.

请说慢一点。

Qǐng shuō màn yì diǎn.

(Chǐng shuō màn ì-diǎn.)

Please say it again.

请再说一遍。

Qǐng zài shuō yí biàn.

(Chǐng zài shuō í-biàn.)

What do you mean?

您的意思是什么？

Nín de yì sī shì shén me?

(Nín dūh ì-sz shèr shém-mǔh?)

What do you want to say?

你要说什么？

Nǐ yào shuō shén me?

(Ní yòu shuō shém-mǔh?)

Please come in.

请进。

Qǐng jìn.

(Chǐng jìn.)

Do you want to sit down?

你要坐吗？

Nǐ yào zuò ma?

(Ní yòu dzuò mǎ?)

Please sit down.

请坐。

Qǐng zuò.

(Chǐng dzuò.)

May I sit down?

我可以坐吗?

Wǒ ké yǐ zuò ma?

(Wǒ kúh-í dzuò mǎ?)

Someone is sitting here.

这个位子有人坐。

Zhè ge wèi zi yǒu rén zuò.

(Jùh gúh wày-dz yǒ rén dzuò.)

Where are you from?

你从哪来的?

Nǐ cóng nǎ lái de?

(Nǐ tsóng nǎ láí dǎh?)

What do you do for a living?

你做什么工作?

Nǐ zuò shén me gōng zuò?

(Nǐ dzuò shém-mǎh
gōng-dzuò?)**How old are you?**

你几岁?

您多大?

Ní jǐ suì?*

(Ní jǐ swày?)

Nín duō dà?**

(Nín duō dàh?)

* For children.

** For adults.

How long have you been here?

你在这多久了?

Ní zài zhè duō jiǔ le?

(Ní dzài jèr duō jiǒu lǎh?)

What are you interested in?

你对什么有兴趣?

Nǐ duì shén me yǒu xìng qù?

(Ní dwày shém-mǎh yǒ shìng-
chiù?)

What's your hobby?

你有什么爱好?

Nǐ yǒu shén me ài hào?

(Ní yǒu shém-mǔh ài-hòw?)

My hobbies are...

我的爱好是...

Wǒ de ài hào shì...

(Wǒ-dǔh ài-hòw shèr...)

I'm interested in it.

我对这个有兴趣。

Wǒ duì zhè ge yǒu xìng qù.

(Wǒ dǔwà yǒu xìng qù yǒu shìng-chiù.)

I'm not interested in it.

我没兴趣。

Wǒ méi xìng qù.

(Wǒ má yǒu shìng-chiù.)

It means nothing to me.

不算什么。

Bú suàn shén me.

(Bú suàn shém-mǔh.)

I like ...

我喜欢...

Wó xǐ huān...

(Wó xǐ-huān...)

I don't like ...

我不喜欢...

Wó bù xǐ huān...

(Wó bù xǐ-huān...)

I hate ...

我讨厌...

Wó tǎo yàn...

(Wó tǎu-yèn ...)

I loathe ...

我恨...

Wó hèn...

(Wó hùn...)

Very strong statement and is seldom said.

Have you done ... before?

你以前做...过吗?

Ní yǐ qián zuò... guò ma?

(Ní yǐ-chián dzuò... guò mǎ?)

What is your religion?

你信什么教?

Nǐ xìn shén me jiào?

(Nǐ shìn shém-mǔh jiào?)

Buddhist

佛教

Fó jiào

(Fó jiào)

Taoist

道教

Dào jiào

(Dào jiào)

Christian

基督教

Jī dū jiào

(Jī-dū jiào)

Catholic

天主教

Tiān zhǔ jiào

(Tiān jǔ jiào)

Muslim

回教

Huí jiào

(Huáy jiào)

Atheist

无神论者

Wú shén lùn zhě

(Wú shén luèn zhě)

No religion

不信教

Bú xìn jiào

(Bú shìn jiào)

Sleep

睡觉

Shuì jiào

(Shuà jiào)

This is a common joke as "sleep" sounds like a religion. Notice the ending *jiào*.

What's your blood type?

你是什么血型?

Nǐ shì shén me xié xíng?

(Nǐ shè shém-mǔ shíé shíng?)

In Asia, this is an important indicator of your personality.

Type A : Tender, neat, and kind; they make good wives.

Type B : Loving, cute, active, and humorous.

Type O : Bad tempered, good decision makers; they are typical leaders and are wise; they make good elder brothers.

Type AB : Weird geniuses; sometimes thought to be crazy and emotional.



I'm type A.

我是 A 型。

Wǒ shì (Ā) xín.

(Wǒ shè (Ā) shín.)

What's your year sign?

你属什么?

Ní shǔ shén me?

(Ní shǔ shén-mǔh?)

This is concerned with Chinese astrology. Each year is denoted by one of twelve different animals. Your animal-year is supposed to be an indicator of your personality.

My year sign is ...

我属...。

Wó shǔ... .

(Wó shǔ... .)

Mouse

鼠

Shǔ

(shǔ)

Ox

牛

Niú

(Nióu)

Tiger

虎

Hǔ

(Hǔ)

Rabbit

兔

Tù

(Tù)

Dragon

龙

Lóng

(Lóng)

Snake

蛇

Shé

(Shúh)

Horse

马

Mǎ

(Mǎ)

Sheep

羊

Yáng

(Yáng)

Monkey

猴

Hóu

(Hó)

Rooster

鸡

Jī

(Jī)

Dog

狗

Gǒu

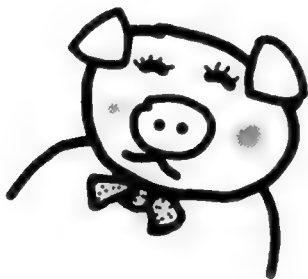
(Gǎo)

Pig

猪。

Zhū

(Jū)



How the system of Chinese Astrology was created

Long, long ago, there was no concept of time. There were no clocks or calendars. People wanted to mark the passing of time but didn't know how. So, they sought advice from the Emperor, known for his wisdom in such matters. He pondered for a considerable time before deigning to offer his learned advice: "Because animals and humans have a close affinity and the names of animals are easily remembered, they should be used to symbolize time. Henceforth, a river crossing race shall be held to determine those animals best suited to signify time".

Thereupon the event was held. All manner of beasts attended. The cat and the mouse, who were good friends, discussed the best manner in which to cross, as neither could swim. They decided to ask the ox to aid them. The ox, being a sincere and kindhearted soul, agreed to carry them across. The race began and the ox, who was by far the best swimmer, emerged in the lead. As they neared the finish line, the cat proudly rose and declared the three of them to be the first to cross the line. But the mouse, a cunning and selfish soul, secretly desired to cross the line first. So he caught the cat unawares and pushed him into the water. He then jumped behind the ox's ear.

The ox, unaware of the commotion, swam on to the finish line. Just as he reached the shore, the mouse leaped forward and ran to victory, quickly followed by the ox, the tiger, the rabbit [1], the dragon [2], the snake [3], the horse [3], the sheep [4], the monkey [4], the cock [4], the dog [4], and the pig [5]. The exhausted cat finally scrambled to shore, but the race was already over. The cat was extremely angry at the mouse, and every time they met, the cat would try to bite him. He then reported the mouse's crime to all of his progeny, beginning a feud between the two animals which continues to this very day. The mouse, knowing full-well his sin, skulked away in guilt and spent the rest of his days hiding in dark, sullen places.

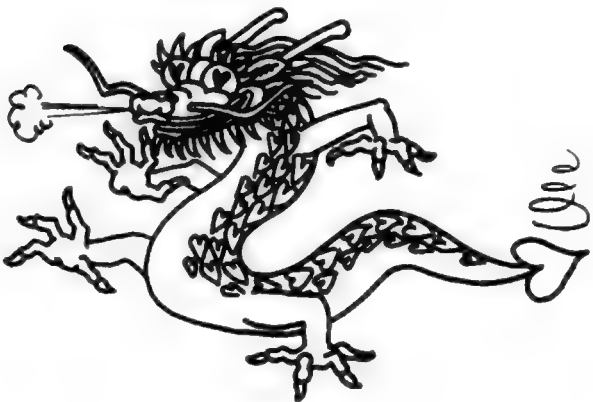
[1] The rabbit, who could not swim, made the crossing by leaping across the other animals' heads. He acquired his peculiarly shaped mouth because he ran too fast, and after crossing the finish line, ran into a tree.

[2] *The dragon*, who should have been placed higher in the ranking, had been busy in the heavens creating thunder and lightning. He absent-mindedly made the thunder too loud, which caused him to become fairly deaf. As a consequence, he did not hear the start of the race and had to come from behind to acquire fifth place.

[3] *The snake*, in order to defeat the horse, scared him and dashed in front. Unfortunately for him, he ran too fast, causing his four legs to break off, leaving him in his present legless state.

[4] *The sheep*, monkey, and rooster had agreed to make the crossing together. They did so by putting the sheep on the shoulders of the monkey, who in turn sat upon the back of the rooster. As they were crossing, the sheep (who was a sort of lookout) saw the dog (who was naughtily bathing in the river) and scolded him severely. The dog continued the race and finished next to last but he didn't really care. The sheep ended up over-straining his eyes and permanently damaged his vision. The monkey, who sat far too long, acquired a permanently red posterior. The rooster, who had been supporting the group, lost two of his original four legs as they were crushed.

[5] *The pig* finished last as he decided to finish eating before crossing the river. When he finally made it across, he entreated the Emperor for more food. His gluttony caused him to become the laughing stock of all those present.



Year and Personalities

The animal years repeat every 12 years.

2003: Sheep

Gentle, artistic, peace-loving, sweet-natured, lovable, creative, inventive, amorous, tasteful, intelligent. Insecure, pessimistic, unpunctual, undisciplined, dissatisfied, irresponsible.

2004: Monkey

Merry, enthusiastic, witty, good in business, clever, fascinating, passionate, youthful, very intelligent, inventive. Vain, adolescent, long-winded, unfaithful, untruthful, untrustworthy.

2005: Rooster

Proud, enthusiastic, stylish, popular, lively, amusing, generous, adventurous, industrious, conservative, courageous. Pompous, pedantic, short-sighted, boastful, mistrustful, extravagant.

2006: Dog

Faithful, loyal, noble, modest, devoted, prosperous, courageous, respectable, selfless, dutiful, intelligent. Introverted, cynical, critical, moralizing, stubborn, defensive.

2007: Pig

Scrupulous, loyal, sincere, honest, loving, sociable, sensitive, sensual, truthful, peaceful, intelligent. Naive, Epicurean, insecure, gullible, defenseless, non-competitive, earthy.

2008: Mouse

Aggressive, energetic, jolly, charming, sociable, humorous, generous, intellectual, sentimental, honest, persistent. Greedy, small-minded, power-hungry, destructive, suspicious, tiresome, likes to gamble.

2009: Ox

Hard-working, lonely, leaders, strong, proud, reserved, methodical, original, eloquent, patient, silent. Rigid, bad losers, authoritarian, conventional, jealous, stubborn, slow.

2010: Tiger

Smiling, magnetic, lucky, strong, honorable, good leaders, liberal-minded, courageous, generous, passionate. Vain, rash, disobedient, undisciplined, argumentative, rebellious.

2011: Rabbit

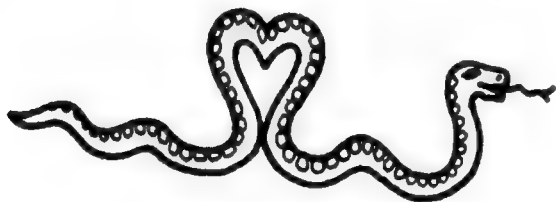
Cautious, clever, hospitable, sociable, friendly, sensitive, ambitious, careful, private. Timid, thin-skinned, old-fashioned, hypochondriac, squeamish.

2012: Dragon

Showy, artistic, enthusiastic, lucky, healthy, generous, sentimental, successful, independent. Demanding, irritable, loudmouthed, stubborn, discontented, and willful. The dragon is the symbol of the emperor.

2013: Snake

Wise, sympathetic, lucky, sophisticated, calm, decisive, attractive, philosophical, elegant, compassionate. Lazy, possessive, tight-fisted, bad losers, changeable, vengeful, extravagant.

**2014: Horse**

Gifted, athletic, charming, quick-witted, hard-working, entertaining, powerful, skillful, cheerful, eloquent, independent. Weak, unfeeling, hot-headed, selfish, ruthless, tactless, impatient, rebellious.

What's your astrological sign?

你是什么星座?

Nǐ shì shén me xīng zuò?
(Nǐ shèr shém-mǔ shīng
dzuò?)

Aries

白羊座

Bái yáng zuò
(Bái-yáng dzuò)

Taurus

金牛座

Jīn niú zuò

(Jīn-niǒu dzuò)

Gemini

双子座

Shuāng zī zuò

(Shuāng-dī dzuò)

Cancer

巨蟹座

Jù xiè zuò

(Jiù-shièh dzuò)

Leo

狮子座

Shī zi zuò

(Shēr-dz dzuò)

Virgo

处女座

Chù nǚ zuò

(Chù-nǚ dzuò)

Libra

天平座

Tiān píng zuò

(Tiān-píng dzuò)

Scorpio

天蝎座

Tiān xiē zuò

(Tiān-shièh dzuò)

Sagittarius

射手座

Shè shǒu zuò

(Shùh-shǒu dzuò)

Capricorn

摩羯座

Mó xiè zuò

(Muó-shièh dzuò)

Aquarius

水瓶座

Shuǐ píng zuò

(Shuǎy-píng dzuò)

Pisces

双鱼座

Shuāng yú zuò

(Shuāng-yú dzuò)

Do you believe it?

你相信吗?

Nǐ xiāng xìn ma?

(Nǐ shiāng shìn mǎ?)

It might be true.

可能是真的。

Kě néng shì zhēn de.

(Kǔh núng shèr jēn-dǔh.)

I believe it!

我相信!

Wǒ xiāng xìn!

(Wó shiāng-shìn!)

I don't believe it!

我不相信!

Wǒ bù xiāng xìn!

(Wǒ bù shiāng-shìn!)

Really?

真的吗?

Zhēn de ma?

(Jēn-dǔh mǎ?)

That's a lie!

那是谎话!

Nà shì huǎng huà!

(Nàh shèr hwǎng-hwàh!)

You lied!

你说慌!

Nǐ shuō huǎng!

(Nǐ shuō hwǎng!)



Tell the truth!

说真的!

Shuō zhēn de!

(Shuō jēn-dǔh!)

How do you know?

你怎么知道?

Ní zěn me zhī dào?

(Ní dzēm-mǔh jēr dòw?)

Who said it?

谁说的?

Shuí shuō de?

(Sháy shuō dǔh?)

I know that person.

我认识那个人。

Wǒ rèn shi nà gè rén.

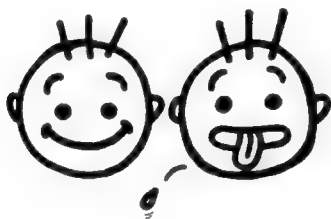
(Wǒ rèn-shèr nàh gǔh rén.)

I know him/her.

我认识他 / 她。

Wǒ rèn shi tā

(Wǒ rèn-shèr tā)



It depends.

看情形。

Kàn qíng xíng.

(Kàn chéng-shíng.)

I agree with you.

我同意。

Wǒ tóng yì.

(Wǒ tóng-ì.)

I don't agree with you.

我不同意。

Wǒ bù tóng yì.

(Wǒ bù tóng-ì.)

I didn't think of that.

我没想到。

Wǒ méi xiǎng dào.

(Wǒ má y shiāng dòw.)

I didn't consider that.

我没考虑过。

Wǒ méi kǎo lǚ guò.

(Wǒ má y kǎu-liu gò.)

I figured that.

我就知道。

Wǒ jiù zhī dào.

(Wǒ jiù jē dòw.)

Our thoughts are the same.

我们的想法相同。

Wǒ men de xiǎng fǎ xiāng
tóng.

(Wǒ -mèn dǔ shiāng-fǎh
shiāng-tóng.)

Do you care?

你在乎吗?

Nǐ zài hū ma?

(Nǐ zài-hū mǎ?)

Do you care about ... ?

你在乎...吗?

Nǐ zài hū... ma?

(Nǐ zài-hū... mǎ?)

I don't care.

我不在乎。

Wǒ bú zài hū.

(Wǒ bú zài-hū.)

Who cares?

谁在乎?

Shuí zài hū?
(Sháy zài-hū?)**Either is fine.**

都可以。

Dōu ké yǐ.
(Dō kúh-í.)**No problem.**

没问题。

Méi wèn tí.
(Máy wèn-tí.)**It doesn't matter.**

没关系。

Méi guān xi.
(Máy guān-shi.)**Go for it!**

去做吧!

Qù zuò ba!
(Chìu dzuò bǎ!)**I've got an idea.**

我有办法。

Wó yǒu bàn fa.
(Wó yó bàn-fǎh.)**What way?**

什么办法?

Shén me bàn fa?
(Shém-mǔh bàn-fǎh?)**There's no way you can do it!**

你没办法!

Nǐ méi bàn fa!
(Nǐ máy bàn-fǎh!)**It can't be helped.**

没办法。

Méi bàn fa.
(Máy bàn-fǎh.)

Why did you do that?

你为什么这么做?

Nǐ wèi shén me zhè-me zuò?

(Nǐ wày shém-mǔh dzè-m-mǔh dzuò?)

Let's start it.

开始吧。

Kāi shǐ ba.

(Kāi-shér bǎ.)

Finished?

做好了吗?

Zuò hǎo le ma?

(Dzuò hǎw lǔh mǎ?)

Finished.

做好了。

Zuò hǎo le.

(Dzuò hǎw lǔh.)

Do you have free time?

有空吗?

Yǒu kòng ma?

(Yǒ kòng mǎ?)

Would you like to go

(to) ... ?

你想去...?

Ní xiǎng qù... ?

(Ní shiǎng chiù... ?)

Bar/Pub

酒吧

Jiǔ bā

(Jiǒu-bā)

Restaurant

餐厅

饭店

Cān tīng

(Tsān-tīng)

Fàn diàn

(Fàn-dièn)



**Park**

公园

Gōng yuán

(Gōng-yuén)

Jogging

慢跑

Màn pǎo

(Màn pǎo)

Swimming

游泳

Yóu yǒng

(Yó-yǒng)

Movie

电影

Diàn yǐng

(Dièn-ǐng)

Let's go see a movie!

我们去看电影!

Wǒ men qù kàn diàn yǐng!

(Wǒ-mě'n chù kàn dièn-ǐng!)

Have you seen ... before?

你看过...吗?

Nǐ kàn guò... ma?

(Nǐ kàn guò... mǎ?)

Two tickets please.

请给我两张票。

Qǐng gěi wǒ liǎng zhāng piào.

(Chǐng gáy wǒ liǎng jāng piào.)

**What kind of movie would
you like to see?**

你喜欢看什么电影?

Nǐ xǐ huān kàn shén me diàn
yǐng?(Nǐ shǐ-huān kàn shèn-mǔh
dièn-ǐng?)**Science fiction**

科幻片

Kē huàn piàn

(Kūh-huàn pièn)

Comedy

喜剧片

Xǐ jù piàn

(Xǐ-jù piàn)

Romance

言情片

Yán qíng piàn

(Yán-chíng piàn)

Horror

恐怖片

Kǒng bù piàn

(Kǒng-bù piàn)

Ghost.

鬼怪片

Guǐ guài piàn

(Guǐ-guài piàn)

Adventure

动作片

Dòng zuò piàn

(Dòng-dzuò piàn)

Gangster

警匪片

Jíng fěi piàn

(Jíng-fěi piàn)

Mystery

神怪片

Shén guài piàn.

(Shén-guài piàn)

Western

西部片

Xī bù piàn

(Xī-bù piàn)

X-rated

色情片

Sè qíng piàn

(Sèh chíng piàn)

American movie

欧美电影

Ōu měi diàn yǐng)

(Ōu-měi diàn-ǐng)



Chinese movie

中国电影

Zhōng guó diàn yǐng
(jōng-guó diàn-ǐng)**Good idea.**

好主意。

Hǎo zhú yì.
(Hǎo jú-i.)**Let me think it over.**

让我想一下。

Ràng wó xiǎng yí xià.
(Ràng wó shiǎng í-shiàh.)**Have you decided yet?**

你决定了吗?

Nǐ jué dìng le ma?
(Nǐ juáy-dìng lǚh mǎ?)**It's up to you.**

随便你。

Suí biàn nǐ.
(Swáy-bièn nǐ.)**You decide.**

你决定。

Nǐ jué dìng.
(Nǐ juáy-dìng.)**When can you ... ?**

你什么时候可以...?

Nǐ shén me shí hòu ké yǐ... ?
(Nǐ shém-mǎh shé-hò
kúh-r... ?)**Come**

来

Lái
(Lái)**Go**

去

Qù
(Chìu)**Do it**

做

Zuò
(Dzuò)

Do you want to go?

你想去吗?

Ní xiǎng qù ma?

(Ní shiǎng chiu mǎ?)

I can't go.

我不能去。

Wǒ bù néng qù.

(Wǒ bù núng chiu.)

Are you ready?

你好了没有?

Ní hǎo le méi yǒu?

(Ní hǎw lǔh máy yó?)

Ready

好了

Hǎo le

(Hǎw lǔh)

Not yet.

还没。

Hái méi.

(Hái máy.)

Meet me at ...

我们在...见。

Wǒ men zài... jiàn.

(Wǒ-měnz zài... jièn.)

I'll wait for you.

我等你。

Wǒ déng nǐ.

(Wǒ dúng nǐ.)

I won't leave until you

come.

不见不散。

Bù jiàn bù sǎn.

(Bù jièn bù sǎn.)

Please don't stand me up!

请不要让我白等!

Qǐng bù yào ràng wǒ bái

děng!

(Chíng bù yòw ràng wǒ bái

dǔng!)

Let's go!

我们走吧!

Wǒ men zǒu ba!

(Wǒ-měnz zǒ bǎ!)

Please give me a ride to ...

请送我去...。

Qǐng lā wǒ qù... .

(Chǐng sòng wó chiu... .)

Can you come here?

你可以来这里吗?

Nǐ ké yǐ lái zhè lǐ ma?

(Nǐ kúh-í lái jùh-lǐ mǎ?)

Where do you live?

你住哪儿?

Nǐ zhù nǎ ér?

(Nǐ jù nǎ?)

What's your address?

你的地址是什么?

Nǐ de dì zhǐ shì shén me?

(Nǐ dūh dì-jě shèr shém-mǔh?)

Please write it down.

请写下来。

Qíng xiě xià lái.

(Chíng shiě shiàh lái.)

I'll see you home.

我送你回家。

Wǒ sòng nǐ huí jiā.

(Wǒ sòng nǐ hwáy jiāh.)

Watch your step.

慢走。

Màn zǒu.

(Màn zǎ.)

Literally means "walk slowly" and is commonly used. The response is *hwày jièn*.

**I'll write you a letter.**

我会写信给你。

Wǒ huì xiě xìn gěi nǐ.

(Wǒ hwày shiě shìn gáy nǐ.)

If you have free time, let's get together.

有空见。

Yǒu kòng jiàn.

(Yǒ kòng jièn.)

I'll leave first.

我先走。

Wǒ xiān zǒu.

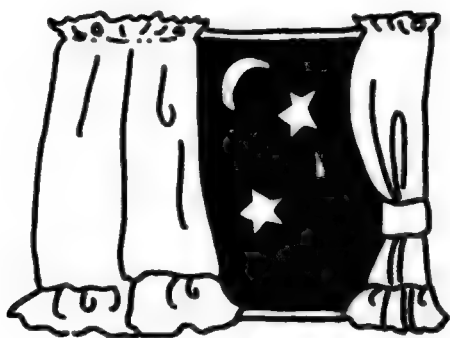
(Wǒ shiēn zǎ.)

See you in a while.

回头见。

Huí tóu jiàn.

(Hwáy tó jièn.)



See you later.

改天见。

Gǎi tiān jiàn.

(Gǎi tiān jiàn.)

See you tomorrow.

明天见。

Míng tiān jiàn.

(Míng-tiān jiàn.)

See you tonight.

晚上见。

Wǎn shang jiàn.

(Wǎn-shǎng jiàn.)

Come back sometime!

再来。

Zài lái!

(Zài lái!)

Good bye.

再见。

Zài jiàn.

(Zài-jiàn.)

Shooting the Breeze

3

Bullshit!

废话!

Fèi huà!

(Fày-hwàh!)

Talk nonsense!

乱讲!

Luàn jiǎng!

(Luàn-jiǎng!)

To brag

吹牛

Chuī niú

(Chuāy nióu)

To flatter

拍马屁。

Pāi mǎ pì.

(Pāi mǎ pì.)

Literally means "to pat the horse's rear end."

Everyday spoken Chinese.

普通话。

Pǔ tōng huà.

(Pǔ-tōng hwàh.)

This literally means "common" language.

Weird, bizarre, strange.

奇怪。

Qí guài.

(Chée-guài.)

I'm sick of ...

我讨厌...。

Wó tǎo yàn....

(Wó tǎu yèn...)

Boring

无聊

Wú liáo

(Wú-liów)

To be cheated/ripped off.

被骗。

Bèi piàn.

(Bày pièn.)

**To be at a disadvantage,
suffer a loss.**

吃亏。

Chī kuī.

(Chēr kwāy.)

Don't let others cheat you!

别上当。

Bié shàng dàng.

(Biéh shàng dàng!)

**That really makes me
laugh!**
真好笑!

Zhēn hǎo xiào!
(jēn hǎw shiào!)

Is it fun?
好玩吗?

Hǎo wán ma?
(Hǎw wán mǎ?)

Is it funny?
好笑吗?

Hǎo xiào ma?
(Hǎw shiào mǎ?)

What are you laughing at?
笑什么?

Xiào shén me?
(Shiào shém-mǐh?)

That's really interesting!
有意思!

Yǒu yì sī!
(Yǒ ì-s-ǐ!)

Go on (continue).
继续。

Jì xù.
(jì-shiù.)

And then?
然后呢?

Rán hòu ne?
(Rán hò nǐh?)

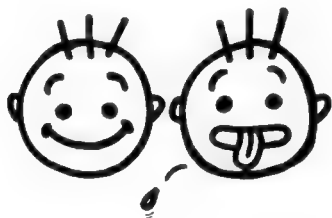
Bizarre
奇异

Qí yì
(Chée yì)

Frighteningly ugly person!
可怖。

Kě bù!
(Kǐh bù!)

This is a contraction of two Chinese words – *kě pà* meaning "frightening" and *kǐng bù* meaning "horrible".



Who farted?

谁放屁了?

Shuí fàng pì le?

(Sháy fàng-pì lǚh?)

Guess!

猜猜看。

Cāi cāi kàn!

(Tsāi tsāi kàn!)

You did!

就是你。

Jiù shì nǐ!

(Jiòu shèr nǐ!)

**Embarrassed.**

不好意思。

Bù hǎo yì si.

(Bù hǒw ì-sz.)

Damn it! (I screwed up)

糟了。

Zāo le!

(Zōw lǚh!)

I can't stand ... !

我受不了...!

Wó shòu bu liǎo... !

(Wǒ shòu bǔ-liǎow... !)

Behaving mysteriously.

神秘兮兮。

Shén mì xī xī.

(Shén mì shī shī.)

Person with a jovial face.

笑嘻嘻。

Xiào xī xī.

(Shiào shī shī.)

A sulky expression.

苦瓜脸。

Kǔ guā liǎn.

(Kǔ-guāh liǎn.)

A wry smile.

苦笑。

Kǔ xiào

(Kǔ shiào)

Leader

大哥大
大姐大

Dà gē dà
(Dà-gūh dà*)
Dà jiě dà
(Dà-jiěh dà**)

* Male; literally means "big brother;" it's also used for Mafia bosses and cordless telephones.

** Female; literally means "big sister."

Boss

老板

Lǎo bǎn
(Lǎu bǎn)

How pitiful!

真可怜!

Zhēn kě lián!
(jūn kúh-lién!)

Used to describe people.

What a waste!

真可惜!

Zhēn kě xī!
(jūn kúh-shī!)

Used to describe things.

Tenderfoot

新手

Xīn shǒu
(Shīn shǒu)

Experienced person

老手

Lǎo shǒu
(Lǎu shǒu)

Person who loves to show off.

爱出风头。

Ài chū fēng tóu.
(Ài chū fōng tó.)

Good, kind person.

好好先生

Háo hào xiān shēng.
(Hów hów shiēn shūng.)

Person who has many talents.

有两下子。

Yóu liǎng xià zì.
(Yó liáng shiàh dz.)

Shocking!

吓人!

Xià rén!
(Shiàh rén!)

Outlandish clothes

奇装异服

Qí zhuāng yì fú
(Chée juāng ì fú)

Foreign ghost/devil

洋鬼子

Yáng guǐ zi

(Yáng guǎi-dǐ)

Usually used to refer to Western Caucasians.

Foreigner

外国人

Wài guó rén

(Wài-guó-rén)

Yankee

洋人

Yáng rén

(Yáng-rén)

Black person

黑人

Hēi rén

(Hāi-rén)

Red person

棕色人

Zōng sè rén

(jōng-sùh-rén)

White person

白人

Bái rén

(Bái-rén)

It's a good thing that....

还好....。

Hái hǎo...)

(Hái hǎo...)

Don't be like that!

别这样。

Bié zhè yàng.

(Biéh jùh yàng!)

Awesome!/Fierce!

厉害。

Lì hài!

(Lì-hài!)

This is a commonly used phrase and well worth remembering.



Say it again.

再说一遍。

Zài shuō yí biàn.

(Zài shuō í-bièn.)

A liar's true intent.

真像。

Zhēn xiàng.

(Jūn shiàng.)

**Don't waste your energy
doing useless things.**

省省吧。

Shéng shèng ba!

(Shúng shúng bǎ!)

As if!

才怪!

Cái guài!

(Tsái guài!)



Junior high school girl!

黄毛丫头!

Huáng máo yā tóu!

(Huáng máu yāh-tó!)

That hurts!

很痛!

Hěn tòng!

(Hǔn tòng!)

I'm not sure.

我不确定。

Wǒ bú què dìng.

(Wǒ bú chuà y dīng.)

He/She/It's gone!

他 / 她 / 它走了!

Tā zǒu le!

(Tā zó lǚh!)

There's so many people! Hǎo duō rén!
 好多人。(Hǎo duō rén!)

Hide. Duó qǐ lái
 躲起来。(Duó qiē lái)

Lively, exciting, good time. Rè nào.
 热闹!(Rè-nào.)

Too early! Tài zǎo!
 太早。(Tài zǎo!)

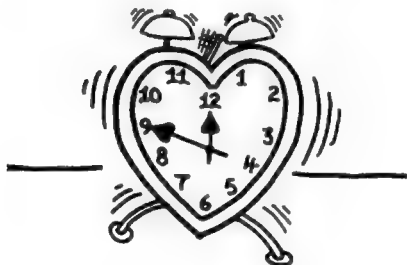
Too late! Tài wǎn!
 太晚。(Tài wǎn!)

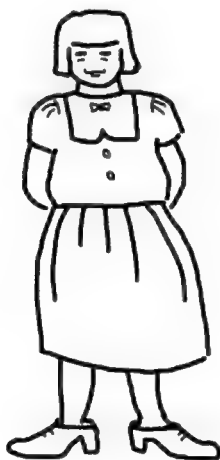
Late Chí dào le
 迟到了。(Chí-dào lǐh)

No-one's there. Nà méi rén ér.
 那没人儿。(Nà méi rén.)

Too much! Tài duō le!
 太多了。(Tài duō lǐh!)

Too little! Tài shǎo le!
 太少了。(Tài shǎo lǐh!)





He/She/It came back.

他 / 她 / 它又来了。

Tā yòu lái le.

(Tā yòu lái lǐh.)

Embarrassed to death.

羞死人了。

Xiū sǐ rén le.

(Shiōu sǐ rén lǐh.)

Old-fashioned.

老土。

Láo tǔ.

(Lóu tǔ.)

To have fallen out of style.

落伍了。

Luò wǔ le.

(Luò wǔ lǐh.)

Exaggeration.

夸张。

Kuā zhāng.

(Kuāh jiāng.)

Too exaggerated.

太夸张了。

Tài kuā zhāng le.

(Tài kuāh jiāng lǚh.)

The difference is too great!

差远了!

Chà yuǎn le!

(Chà yuǎn lǚh!)

You're kidding!

开玩笑!

Kāi wán xiào!

(Kāi wán-shiào!)

Over-exerted

昏了头

Hūn le tóu

(Huēn lǚh tó)

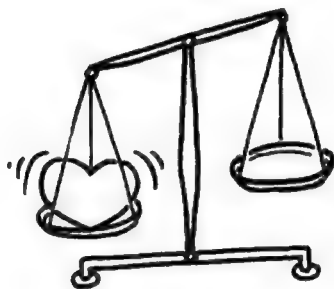
To have done so much that you're going crazy.

Workaholic

工作狂

Gōng zuò kuáng.

(Gōng-dzuo kuáng.)



Eat, Drink, Be Merry!

4

Are you hungry?

你饿了吗?

Nǐ è le ma?

(Nǐ èr lǚh mǎ?)

I'm starving!

我饿死了

Wǒ è sǐ le!

(Wǒ èr sǐ lǚh!)

I'm hungry.

我肚子饿了。

Wǒ dù zi è le.

(Wǒ dù-dz èr lǚh.)

Literally means "my stomach is hungry."

No, I'm not.

我不饿。

Wǒ bú è.

(Wǒ bú èr.)

I'm not very hungry.

我不太饿。

Wǒ bú tài è.

(Wǒ bú tài èr.)

I want to eat.

我想吃。

Wó xiǎng chī.

(Wó shiǎng chēr.)

I don't want to eat.

我不想吃。

Wǒ bù xiǎng chī.

(Wǒ bù shiǎng chēr.)

Are you thirsty?

你渴吗?

Ní kě ma?

(Ní kǔh mǎ?)

I'm thirsty.

我渴了。

Wó kě le.

(Wó kǔh lǚh.)

I'm not thirsty.

我不渴。

Wǒ bù kě.

(Wǒ bù kǔh.)

I'm not very thirsty.

我不太渴。

Wǒ bú tài kě.

(Wǒ bú tài kǔh.)

I don't want to drink.

我不想喝。

Wó bù xiǎng hē.

(Wó bù shiǎng hūh.)

I want to drink.

我想喝。

Wǒ xiǎng hē.

(Wǒ shiǎng hūh.)

Have you ordered?

你点菜了吗?

Nǐ diǎn cài le ma?

(Nǐ diǎn tsài lǚh mǎ?)

Waiter

先生

Xiān sheng

(Shiēn shūng)

Alternatively, *xiān sheng* means "Mister."

Waitress

小姐

Xiǎo jiě

(Shiáu jiěh**)

Alternatively, *xiǎo jie* means "Miss."

Menu please.

请给我菜单。

Qǐng gěi wǒ cài dān.

(Chíng gáy wǎ tsài-dān.)

I'll order for us.

我来点菜。

Wǒ lái diǎn cài.

(Wǒ lái diǎn tsài.)

Would you like a drink?

你想喝饮料吗?

Nǐ xiǎng hē yǐng liào ma?

(Nǐ shiǎng hūh ینگ-liào mǎ?)

Are you drunk?

你醉了吗?

Nǐ zuì le ma?

(Nǐ dzuày-lǚh mǎ?)





I'm drunk.

我醉了。

Wǒ zuì le.

(Wǒ dzuày lǚh.)

Drink more!

多喝一点。

Duō hē yì diǎn.

(Duō hūh ì-diǎn.)

A polite way to refuse is to say suáy-ì.

I drank too much.

我喝得太多了。

Wǒ hē de tài duō le

(Wǒ hūh-dǔh tài duō lǚh.)

Don't drink so much!

少喝点儿。

Shǎo hē diǎn ér!

(Shǎu hūh diǎn!)

Hangover.

宿醉。

Sù zuì

(Sù dzuày)

It smells delicious!

闻起来很香。

Wén qǐ lái hěn xiāng

(Wén chǐ-lái hūn shiāng!)

It looks delicious!

看起来很好吃。

Kàn qǐ lái hěn hǎo chī.

(Kàn chǐ-lái hūn hǒw chēh!)

Let's start eating!

开吃了。

Kāi chī le!

(Kāi-chēh lǚh!)

Help yourself.

自己来。

Zì jǐ lái.

(Dzì-jǐ láí.)

This is delicious.

这个很好吃。

Zhè ge hén hǎo chī.

(jùh-gùh hún hǒw chēr.)

Try eating some.

吃吃看。

Chī chī kàn.

(Chēr chēr kàn.)

I don't like it very much.

我不太喜欢。

Wǒ bú tài xǐ huān.

(Wǒ bú tài shǐ-huān.)

What would you like to drink?

你想喝点什么？

Ní xiǎng hē diǎn shén me?

(Ní shiǎng hūh diǎn shém-mǔh?)

Beer

啤酒

Pí jiǔ

(Pí-jioǔ)

Wine, whiskey, etc

酒

Jiǔ

(jioǔ)

Coffee

咖啡

Kā fēi

(Kāh-fāy)

Juice

果汁

Guǒ zhī

(Guǒ jēr)

Soda

汽水

Qì shuǐ

(Chè shuǎy)

Water

开水

Kāi shuǐ

(Kai shuǎy)

Literally means "boiled water."

This is for me.

这是我的。

Zhè shì wǒ de.

(Zhè shèr wǒ dǔh.)

This is for him/her.

这是他 / 她的。

Zhè shì tā de.

(Zhè shèr tā dǔh.)

**I want to order the dish
that he's having.**

我点跟他一样的菜。

Wó diǎn gēn tā yí yàng
de cài.

(Wó diǎn gēn tā í-yàng dǔh
tsài.)

It's expensive.

很贵。

Hěn guì.

(Hǔn guàiy.)

It's cheap.

很便宜。

Hěn pián yì.

(Hǔn pién-i.)

Cheers!

干杯。

Gān bēi.

(Gān bāy!)

Means "dry your cup."

This is awful.

这个难吃死了。

Zhè gè nán chī sǐ le.

(Jùh-gǔh nán chēr sǐ lǔh.)

Sǐ means "death," and the implication is that the food is so bad it will kill you.

Eat more!

多吃点儿。

Duō chī diǎn ér.

(Duō chēr diǎn!)



Please give me a little more.

请给我多一点。

Qǐng gěi wǒ duō yì diǎn.
(Chǐng gáy wǒ duō ì-diǎn.)

Are you full?

你吃饱了吗?

Nǐ chī bǎo le ma?
(Nǐ chēr bǎo lǚh ma?)

Sometimes said as a friendly greeting.

I'm full.

我饱了。

Wó bǎo le.
(Wó bǎo lǚh.)

I'm not full.

我还没饱。

Wǒ hái méi bǎo.
(Wǒ hái má y bǎo.)

I ate too much.

我吃的太多了。

Wǒ chī de tài duō le.
(Wǒ chēr-dǔh tài duō lǚh.)

Curses and Insults

5

I hate you!

我讨厌你!

Wó tǎo yàn nǐ!

(Wó tǎu-yèn nǐ!)

I loathe you!

我恨你!

Wǒ hèn nǐ!

(Wǒ hùn nǐ!)

Very strong statement and is seldom used.

I'll kill you!

我要杀了你!

Wǒ yào shā le nǐ!

(Wǒ yòu shāh-lǚh nǐ!)

You've gone too far!

太过分了!

Tài guò fēn le!

(Tài guò fēn lǚh!)

Shut up!

住口!

Zhù kǒu!

(Jù kǒ!)

Don't speak!

别说了!

Bié shuō le!

(Biéh shuō lǚh!)

Listen to me!

听我说!

Tīng wǒ shuō!

(Tīng wó shuō!)

Get the hell out of here!

滚出去!

Gǔn chū qù!

(Gwǎn chū chiù!)

Literally means "roll away."

I'm a bit angry (pissed off)!

我有一点火大!

Wó yǒu yì diǎn huǒ dà!

(Wó yǒ ì-dién huǒ dàh!)

What do you do for a living?

你做什么工作?

Nǐ zuò shén me gōng zuò?

(Nǐ dzòu shém-mǔh gōng-dzòu?)

I'm mad as hell!

我火大了!

Wó huǒ dà le!

(Wó huǒ dàh lǚh!)

Calm down!

冷静一点。

Lěng jìng yì diǎn!

(Lěng-jìng ì-diǎn!)

What the hell are you doing?

干什么?

Gàn shén me?

(Gàn shém-mǔ?)

Have you finished speaking yet?

说完了没有?

Shuō wán le méi yǒu?

(Shuō wán lǚh má yǒ?)

It's none of your business!

没你的事!

Méi nǐ de shì.

(Má y nǐ-dǔh shè!)

Damn it!

该死!

Gāi sǐ!

(Gāi sǐ!)

Don't complain!

不要抱怨!

Bù yào bào yuàn!

(Bù yòu bào-yuèn!)

Stop screwing around!

别闹了!

Bié nào le!

(Biéh nòw lǚh!)

You deserve it!

活该!

Huó gāi!

(Huó-gāi!)



Leave me alone!

不要管我!

Bù yào guǎn wǒ!

(Bù yào wǒ guǎn wǒ!)

Don't bother me!

别烦我!

Bié fán wǒ!

(Bié fán wǒ!)

Stop bothering me!

饶了我!

Ráo le wǒ!

(Ráo lǐ wǒ!)

Nagging person.

罗嗦。

Luō suo.

(Luō-suo.)

**Person who is always
criticizing and nagging
others.**

唠叨。

Láo dāo.

(Láo-dāo.)

Be polite!

客气点!

Kè qì diǎn!

(Kùh-chèe diǎn!)

The noise is killing me!

吵死人了!

Cháo sǐ rén le!

(Tsáu sǐ rén lǐ!)

Don't come to find me!

别找我!

Bié zhǎo wǒ!

(Bié jów wǒ!)

Forget it!

算了吧!

Suàn le ba!

(Swàn lǐ ba!)

Who do you think you are?

你算老几?

Nǐ suàn lǎo jǐ?

(Nǐ swàn lǎu-jǐ?)

**You don't know your own
shortcomings!**

马不知脸长，猴子不知
屁股红!

Mǎ bù zhī liǎn cháng,

hóu zi bù zhī pì gu hóng!

(Mǎ bù jēr liǎn cháng,

hó-dz bù jēr pì-gǔ hóng!)

Literally means "A horse doesn't know his face is long; a monkey doesn't know his ass is red."

Stuck up, arrogant person.

好拽。

Hào zhuài.

(Hòw juǎi)

You're a ... !

你是个...!

Nǐ shì ge... !

(Nǐ shèr gǔh... !)

No, you're a ... !

你才是个...!

Nǐ cái shì ge... !

(Nǐ tsái shèr gǔh... !)

Good-for-nothing person.

孬种。

Nāo zhǒng.

(Nǎo-jǒng.)

You're nothing.

你不是东西。

Nǐ bú shì dōng xi.

(Nǐ bù shèr dōng-shi.)

Stupid

笨蛋

Bèn dàn

(Bùn dàn)

Pretending to be ignorant

装蒜。

Zhuāng suàn.

(Juāng swàn.)

Crazy person.

疯子

Fēng zi

(Fōng-tz)

Crazy

神经病

Shén jīng bìng

(Shén jīng bìn)

Sick

有病

Yǒu bìng

(Yǒ bìng)



Not normal

不正常

Bú zhèng cháng

(Bú jèng-cháng)

Day-dreaming

做白日梦

Zuò bái rì mèng

(Dzuò bái-rèr-mòng)

Dreaming

发呆

做梦

Fā dāi

(Fāh dāi)

Zuò mèng

(Dzuò mòng)



You're screwed up.

有毛病。

Yǒu máo bìng.

(Yǒ máu-bìng.)

This means that something is OK sometimes and at other times not; for example, a broken-down machine.

Weird

奇怪

Qí guài

(Chée-guài)

This is too weird.

莫名其妙。

Mò míng qí miào.

(Muò míng chée miòw.)

Weird guy

怪才

Guài cái

(Guài tsāi)

Horny guy

色狼

Sè láng

(Sùh-láng)

Literally means "colored wolf."

Perverved

变态

Biàn tài

(Bièn-tài)

A person who is mentally ill.

Pig

猪八戒

Zhū bā jiè

(jū-bā jièh)

Women's talk—for someone you can't stand.

Fat person

汽油桶

Qì yóu tǒng

(Chèe-yó-tǒng)

Loves to eat.

吃货。

Chī huò.

(Chēr huò.)

Skinny (like a monkey).

瘦皮猴。

Shòu pí hóu.

(Shòu-pí-hó.)

Skinny (like a stick).

柴火棍。

Chái huò gùn.

(Qái-huo gwèn.)

Fat-legged woman

萝卜腿。

Luó bo tuǐ.

(Luó-buo twǎy.)

A woman who has legs that look like carrots.

Moron

白痴

Bái chī

(Bái-chēr)



Electrical shortage in the brain.

短路。

Duǎn lù.
(Duǎn-lù.)**IQ of zero**

弱智

Ruò zhì
(Ruò-jèr)**Bimbo**

二百五

Èr bái wǔ
(Èr bái wǔ)**Busybody (female)**

三八

Sān bā
(Sān-bā)**A simple soul**

四九

Sì jiǔ.
(Sì-jioǔ)

A person who simply passes messages to others without considering if they're right or wrong.

Stingy

吝啬

Lìn sè
(Lìn-sùh)**Big mouth**

大嘴巴

Dà zuǐ bā
(Dàh dzuǎy-bā)**To shoot one's mouth off.**

多嘴。

Duō zuǐ.
(Duō dzuǎy.)**Gossip, blabbermouth**

长舌妇

长舌男

Cháng shé fù*
(Cháng-shùh-fù)
Cháng shé nán
(Cháng-shùh-nán**)

* For a woman.

** For a man.

Useless person

废物

Fèi wu
(Fày- wǔ)**Bad guy (will do anything for money)**

混混

Hùn hun
(Huèn-hǔn)

A person who will do anything for money.

**Monster**

怪物

Guài wù
(Guài wù)**Bad teenager**

小太保

小太妹

Xiǎo tài bǎo
(Shiǎu-tài-bǎu)
Xiǎo tài mèi
(Shiǎu-tài-mài*)

* For a girl.

Narrow-minded

小心眼

Xiǎo xīn yǎn
(Shiǎu shīn-yiǎn)**Disgusting**

恶心

Ě xīn
(Ěr-shīn)**Very mean**

很凶

Hěn xiōng
(Hǔn shiōng)**You're cold-hearted.**

没良心。

Méi liáng xīn.
(Máy liáng-shīn.)**A heartless lover.**

薄情郎。

Bó qíng láng.
(Buó ching-láng.)

Women's insult intended for a man.

Cold-blooded animal.

冷血动物。

Léng xuě dòng wù.
(Lúng shuě dòng wù.)**Extremely ugly**

丑八怪

Chǒu bá guài
(Tsǒu bā-guài)

You should look in the mirror.

也不照照镜子。

Yě bú zhào zhào jìng zi.
(Yiě bú jòw-jòw jìn-tz.)**Old man**

老先生

Lǎo xiān shēng
(Lǎo shiān shūng)**Old woman**

老太太

Lǎo tài tài
(Lǎo-tài-tài)**Homosexual**

同性恋

Tóng xìng liàn
(Tóng shìng lièn)**Coward**

胆小鬼

Dǎn xiǎo guǐ
(Dǎn shiǎu-guǎy)**Miser**

小气鬼

Xiǎo qì guǐ
(Shiǎu-chèe-guǎy)**Lazy person**

懒虫

Lǎn chóng
(Lǎn chóng)**Person who never expresses his feelings.**

自闭症。

Zì bì zhèng.
(Dzì bì jèn.)**Unappreciative person**

不知好歹。

Bù zhī hǎo dǎi.
(Bù jēr hów-dǎi.)

A person who can't tell when others treat him well.

Rash, reckless person.

不知死活。

Bù zhī sǐ huó.
(Bù jēr sǐ huó.)**Your conscience bothers you.**

心里有鬼。

Xīn lǐ yǒu guǐ.
(Shīn-lǐ yó guǎy.)

When you know that you've done something wrong.

Inside you know the truth

心里有数。

Xīn lǐ yǒu shù.
(Shīn-lǐ yó shù.)

When you know what you should rightfully do.

I never want to see you again.

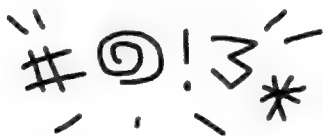
我再也不要看到你。

Wǒ zài yě bù yào kàn dào nǐ.
(Wǒ zài yěhù bù yào kàn dào nǐ.)

I'm leaving!

我要走了!

Wǒ yào zǒu le.
(Wǒ yào zǒu lǚh!)



Screw you!

去你的!

Qù nǐ de.
(Chìu nǐ dǔh!)

Fuck you!

他妈的!

Tā mā de!
(Tā mā dǎ!)

Fuck your mother!

操你妈!

Cào nǐ mā.
(Tsào nǐ mā!)

Bitch!

泼妇!

Pō fù!
(Pōā fōo!)

Whore!

婊子!

Biǎo zi.
(Biǎo-tz!)

Bastard!

王八蛋。

Wáng bā dàn.
(Wáng-bā-dàn!)

Literally means "turtle's egg."

I'm sorry/Excuse me.

对不起。

Duì bù qǐ.
(Dwày bù chí.)

**To feel apologetic/
regretful.**

抱歉。

Bào qiàn.
(Bào chièn.)

Please forgive me!

请你原谅我!

Qíng nǐ yuán liàng wǒ!

(Chíng nǐ yuán-liàng wǒ!)

I forgive you.

我原谅你。

Wǒ yuán liàng nǐ.

(Wǒ yuán-liàng nǐ.)

I can't forgive you.

我不能原谅你。

Wǒ bù néng yuán liàng nǐ.

(Wǒ bù núng yuán-liàng nǐ.)

I'll never forgive you.

我永远不会原谅你。

Wǒ yǒng yuǎn bú huì yuán
liàng nǐ.

(Wǒ yǒng-yuǎn bú huà yuán-
liàng nǐ.)

I want to apologize.

我想道歉。

Wó xiǎng dào qiàn.

(Wó shiǎng dòu-chièn.)

You'd better apologize.

你最好道歉。

Nǐ zuì hào dào qiàn.

(Nǐ dzuày hǒw dòu-chièn.)

**Ok, but don't let it ever
happen again.**

好,但是不要再发生这
种事情。

Hǎo, dàn shì bù yào zài fā

shēng zhè zhǒng shì qíng.

(Hǒw, dàn-shèr bù-yòu zài fāh-
shēng jùh jǒng shèr-chíng.)

Don't do it again!

下不为例。

Xià bù wéi lì!

(Shiàh bù wáy lì!)

OK, you're right.

算你对。

Suàn nǐ duì.

(Swàn nǐ dwày.)

OK, you win.

算你赢。

Suàn nǐ yíng.

(Swàn nǐ íng.)

OK, I lose.

算我输。

Suàn wǒ sū.

(Swàn wǒ sū.)

You are/were ...

你是…。

Nǐ shì ...

(Nǐ shèr...)

I am/was ...

我是…。

Wǒ shì... .

(Wǒ shèr... .)

He/She/It was ...

他 / 他 / 它是…。

Tā shì... .

(Tā shèr... .)

Right

对了

Dùì le

(Dwày lǚh)

Wrong

错了

Cuò le

(Tsuò lǚh)

Retribution

报应

Bào yìng

(Bàu-ìng)

**What goes around comes
around**

恶有恶报。

È yǒu è bào.

(Èr yǒ èr bàu.)

This phrase applies to evil deeds.

**What goes around comes
around.**

善有善报。

Shàn yǒu shàn bào.

(Shàn yǒ shàn bàu.)

This phrase applies to good deeds.

On the Phone

6

Do you have a phone?

你有电话吗？

Ní yǒu diàn huà ma?

(Ní yǒu diàn-hwàh mǎ?)

What's your phone number?

你的电话是多少？

Nǐ de diàn huà shì duō shǎo?

(Nǐ de diàn-hwàh shèr duō shǎo?)

Can I call you?

我可以给你打电话吗？

Wǒ ké yǐ géi nǐ dǎ diàn huà ma?

(Wǒ kúh-í gáy nǐ dǎ diàn hwàh mǎ?)

Hello, is ... there?

喂，请问…在吗？

Wéi, qǐng wèn... zài ma?

(Wáy, qǐng-wèn... zài mǎ?)

Please give me extension ...

请转…。

Qíng zhuǎn...

(Chíng juǎn...)





The line's busy.

占线。

Zhàn xiàn.

(jàn-shièn.)

Who's calling please?

请问，你是哪位？

Qǐng wèn, nǐ shì nǎ wèi?

(Chǐng-wèn, nǐ shèr nǎh wày?)

Please hold on for a moment.

请等一下。

Qíng děng yí xià.

(Chíng dǔng í-shiàh.)

John isn't in.

John 不在。

John bú zài.

(John bú zài.)

When will he/she be back?

他 / 她什么时候回来。

Tā shén me shí hòu huí lái.

(Tā shém-mǔh shér-hò
hwáy lái?)

Please tell him/her John called

请告诉他 / 她 John
打电话给他 / 她。

Qǐng gào sù tā John dǎ
diàn huà gěi tā.

(Chǐng gòw-sǔ tā John dǎh
dièn-hwàh gáy tā.)

Please tell him/her ...

请告诉他 / 她...

Qǐng gào sù tā...

(Chǐng gòw-sǔ tā...)

I'll phone again.

我再打。

Wǒ zài dǎ.

(Wǒ zài dǎh.)

I'll call you.

我打电话给你。

Wó dǎ diàn huà gěi nǐ.

(Wó dǎh dièn hwàh gáy nǐ.)

Please call me.

请打电话给我。

Chíng dǎ diàn huà gěi wǒ.

(Chíng dǎh dièn hwàh gáy wǒ.)

Please have him/her call me.

请他 / 她给我回电话。

Qǐng tā gěi wǒ huí diàn huà

(Chíng tā gáy wǒ hwáy dièn hwàh.)

My phone number is

我的电话是…。

Wǒ de diàn huà shì... .

(Wǒ-dǎh dièn-hwàh shèr... .)

I'll call you back.

我给你回电话。

Wǒ gěi nǐ huí diàn huà.

(Wǒ gáy nǐ hwáy dièn hwàh.)

Lover's Language

7

Lover

爱人

Ài rén
(Ài-rén)

In mainland China this means "wife" or "husband," but in other countries it means "mistress" or "lover." Don't make the mistake of referring to someone's wife as their mistress.

Electrifying sensation of love at first sight.

起电。

Qǐ diàn.
(Chǐ diàn.)

Diàn literally means "electricity."

Chemistry

来电

Lái diàn
(Lái diàn)

This usually happens when one falls in love.

Old cows eat tender grass.

老牛吃嫩草。

Lǎo niú chī nèn cǎo.
(Lǎo nióu chēr nùn tsów.)

This refers to older men chasing younger women.

Man trying to woo a woman.

泡妞。

Pào niū.
(Pòw niōū.)



Woman trying to catch a rich man.

钓金龟婿

Diào jīn guī xù
(Diào jīn guāy xù)

Rich man

有钱人

Yǒu qián rén
(Yǒ chién rén)

Rich woman

富家女

Fù jiā nǚ
(Fù jiāh nǚ)

Miss.

小姐

Xiǎo jiě
(Shiáu-jiěh)

Sir.

先生

Xiān shēng
(Shiēn-shūng)

Single man.

单身汉

Dān shēn hàn
(Dān-shēn hàn)

Single woman.

单身女郎

Dān shēn nǚ láng
(Dān-shēn nǚ láng)

Single person

单身贵族

Dān shēn guì zú
(Dān-shēn guày dzú)

Means "single, happy person."

Old single man

光棍

Guāng gùn
(Guāng-guèn)

A man who has never married.

Playboy

花花公子

Huā huā gōng zǐ
(Hwāh hwāh gāng dzǐ)

You're very cute.

你很可爱。

Ní hén kě ài.
(Ní hún kǐh-ài.)

You're very pretty.

你很漂亮。

Ní hén piào liàng.
(Ní hún piòw-liǎng.)

You're very beautiful.

你很美。

Ní hén měi.
(Ní hún mǎy.)



Very charming.

很迷人。

Hěn mí rén.

(Hún mí rén.)

You're so sexy!

你很性感。

Ní hěn xìng gǎn!

(Ní hǔn shèng-gǎn!)

You have a beautiful body!

你的身材很美!

Nǐ de shēn cái hén měi!

(Nǐ-dùh shūn-tsái hún mǎy!)

You have beautiful eyes!

你的眼睛很美。

Nǐ de yǎn jīng hén měi!

(Nǐ-dùh yǎn-gīng hún mǎy!)

Beautiful lady.

美女。

Méi nǚ

(Má y nǚ.)

Handsome guy.

帅哥。

Shuài gē.

(Swài gūh.)

**You changed your
hairstyle.**

你变发型了。

Nǐ biàn fǎ xíng le.

(Nǐ biàn fǎh-shíng lǚh.)

**I want to know more
about you.**

我想更了解你。

Wó xiǎng gèng liáo jiě nǐ.

(Wó shiǎng gèng liáo-jiěh nǐ.)

I like you!

我喜欢你!

Wó xǐ huān nǐ!

(Wó shǐ-huān nǐ!)

愛

Do you like ... girls/boys?

你喜欢…女孩 / 男孩吗?

Ní xǐ huān... nǚ hái/nán
hái ma?

(Ní shǐ-huān... nǚ-hái/
nán-hái ma?)

Chinese.

中国人。

Zhōng guó rén.
(Jōng guó rén.)

American.

美国人。

Měi guó rén.
(Mǎy guó rén.)

I'm crazy about you!

我为你疯狂!

Wǒ wèi nǐ fēng kuáng!
(Wó wàiy nǐ fūng-kwáng!)

I'd like to take you

out (on a date).

我想请你出来。

Wó xiǎng chéng nǐ chū lái.
(Wó shiǎng chéng nǐ chū-lái.)

Would you like to dance?

你想跳舞吗?

Ní xiǎng tiào wǔ ma?
(Ní shiǎng tiào-wǔ ma?)

**Would you accompany
me?**

陪我好吗?

Péi wó hǎo ma?
(Páy wó hǎo ma?)

I'll see you home.

我送你回家。

Wǒ sòng nǐ huí jiā.
(Wó sòng nǐ hwáy jiāh.)

I miss you.

我想你。

Wó xiáng nǐ.

(Wó shiáng nǐ.)

I want you.

我要你。

Wǒ yào nǐ.

(Wǒ yào nǐ.)

Close your eyes.

闭上眼睛。

Bì shàng yǎn jīng.

(Bì-shàng yǎn-jīng.)

Open your eyes.

睁开眼睛。

Zhāng kāi yǎn jīng.

(Jūng kāi yǎn-jīng.)

Kiss me!

吻我。

亲我。

Wén wǒ!

(Wén wǒ!*)

Qīn wǒ!

(Chīn wǒ!**)



Bad breath.

口臭。

Kǒu chòu.

(Kǒ-tsòu.)

Really stinks.

很臭

Hěn chòu.

(Hǔn tsòu.)

Hug me!

抱我!

Bào wǒ!

(Bào wǒ!)

I'm yours.

我是你的。

Wǒ shì nǐ de.

(Wǒ shèr nǐ-děh.)

You're mine.

你是我的。

Nǐ shì wǒ de.

(Nǐ shèr wǒ-děh.)

I'm so happy!

我很高兴!

Wó hěn gāo xìng!

(Wó hǔn gōw-shìng!)

Stay here.

留下来。

Liú xià lái.

(Lióu shiàh lái.)

Come close to me.

靠近我。

Kào jìn wǒ.

(Kòw jìn wǒ.)

What are you doing?

你在做什么?

Nǐ zài zuò shén me?

(Nǐ dzài dzuò shém-mǔh?)

I want to make love.

我想做爱。

Wó xiǎng zuò ài.

(Wó shiǎng dzuò ài.)

Excellent!

好极了!

Hǎo jí le!

(Hǒw jí lǔh!)

No way!

不行!

Bù xíng!

(Bù shíng!)

I don't want to get pregnant.

我不想怀孕。

Wǒ bù xiǎng huái yùn.

(Wǒ bù shiǎng huái-yuèn.)

Is today safe for you?

今天是你的安全期吗?

Jīn tiān shì nǐ de ān quán

qī ma?

(Jīn-tiēn shèr nǐ-dǔh ān-chuén chēe mǎ?)





Are you using protection?

你有避孕吗?

Ní yǒu bì yùn ma?

(Ní yǒ bì-yuèn mǎ?)

Please use protection.

请你带保险套。

Qíng nǐ dài bǎo xiǎn tào.

(Chíng nǐ dài bǎu-shiǎn tào.)

Means "please wear a condom."

Condom (rubber)

避孕套

Bì yùn tào

(Bì-yuèn tào)

Do you have your period?

你有月事吗?

Ní yǒu yuè shì ma?

(Ní yǒ yuèh-shèr mǎ?)

Are you on the rag?

你有月经吗?

Ní yǒu yuè jīn ma?

(Ní yǒ yuèh-jīn mǎ?)

I've got my period.

我的月经来了。

Wǒ de yuè jīn lái le.

(Wǒ dǔh yuèh-jīn lái lǚh.)

Is this your first time?

你是第一次吗?

Nǐ shì dì yī cì ma?

(Nǐ shèr dì ī-ts mǎ?)

Male virgin

童男子

Tóng nán zǐ

(Tóng nán dzǐ)

Female virgin

处女

Chù nǚ

(Chù- nǚ)

Old virgin

老处女

Lǎo chù nǚ
(Lǎo chù- nǚ)

An insulting term for an old, unmarried woman.

Take your ... off.

脱下你的…。

Tuō xià nǐ de...
(Tuō-shiàh nǐ-dùh...)**Clothes**

衣服

Yī fu.
(ī-fǔ)**Coat**

大衣

Dà yī
(Dà ī)**Shirt**

衬衫

Chèn shān
(Chèn-shān)**Bra**

胸罩

Xiōng zhào
(Shiōng-jòw)**Pants**

裤子

Kù zi
(Kù-tz)**Dress**

洋装

Yáng zhuāng
(Yáng-juāng)**Underwear**

内衣

Nèi yī
(Này-ī)

Shoes

鞋子

Xié zi
(Shiéh-tz)

Body

身体

Shēn tǐ
(Shūn-tǐ)

Hair

头发

Tóu fa
(Tó-fǎh)

Eyes

眼睛

Yǎn jīng
(Yǎn-jīng)

Ears

耳朵

Ēr duō
(Ēr-duō)

Lips

嘴唇

Zuǐ chún
(Dzuǎy-chuén)

Chest

胸部

Xiōng bù
(Shiōng-bù)

Breasts

乳房

Ru fáng
(Rǔ-fáng)



Nipples

乳头

Rǔ tóu
(Rǔ-tó)

Rear end (ass)

屁股

Pì gu
(Pì-gǔ)

Navel

肚脐

Dù qí

(Dù-chée)

Vagina

阴道

Yīn dào

(īng-dòw)

Penis

阴茎

Yīn jīng

(īng-jīng)

Testicles

睾丸

Gāo wán

(Gōw-wán)

**Your ... is/are so
(big/small)!**

你的…很（大／小）！

Nǐ de... hěn (dà/xiǎo)!

(Nǐ-dǔh... hǔn (dàh/shiǎu!))

Touch me!

摸我！

Mō wǒ!

(Muō wǒ!)

Don't touch me!

不要碰我！

Bú yào pèng wǒ!

(Bú-yòw pòng wǒ!)

Don't touch me there!

不要碰我那里！

Bú yào pèng wǒ nà lǐ!

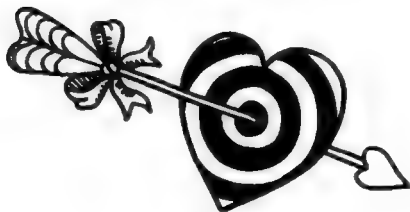
(Bú-yòw pòng wǒ nàh-lǐ!)

Don't do that!

不要这样子！

Bú yào zhè yàng zi!

(Bù yòw jùh yàng-dz!)



Stop! 停止!	Tíng zhǐ! (Tíng-jǐ!)
I'm a little nervous. 我有点紧张。	Wó yóu diǎn jīn zhāng. (Wó yóu diǎn jīn-jāng.)
Don't be nervous. 不要紧张。	Bù yào jīn zhāng. (Bù yào jīn-jāng.)
I'm afraid. 我很怕。	Wó hěn pà. (Wó hǔn pàh.)
What are you afraid of? 怕什么?	Pà shén me? (Pàh shém-mǔh?)
Don't worry about it. 不要担心。	Bú yào dān xīn. (Bù yào dān shīn.)
Bite me! 咬我!	Yáo wǒ! (Yóu wǒ!)
Lick me! 舔我!	Tián wǒ! (Tién wǒ!)
Blow me! 吸我!	Xī wǒ! (Shī wǒ!)
Softer. 轻一点。 别使劲。	Qīng yì diǎn. (Chīng ò-diǎn.) Bié shǐ jìn. (Biéh shǐ-jīn.)
More tender. 温柔一点。	Wēn róu yì diǎn. (Wēn-ró ò-diǎn.)
Stronger. 使劲一点。	Shī jìn yì diǎn. (Shí-jīn ò-diǎn.)
Missionary style. 正常体位。	Zhèng cháng tǐ wèi. (Jèng-cháng tǐ-wày.)
Girl on top. 骑乘体位。	Qí chéng tǐ wèi. (Chí chùng tǐ-wày.)

Doggie style.

后背体位。

Hòu bèi tǐ wèi.

(Hò-bày tǐ-wày.)

Have you come?

你高潮了吗？

Nǐ gāo cháo le ma?

(Nǐ gōw-chów lǚh mǎ?)

Not yet!

还没！

Hái méi!

(Hái máy!)

I haven't come!

我还没高潮！

Wǒ hái méi gāo cháo!

(Wǒ hái máy gōw-chów!)

Oh no!

哎呀！

Ài ya!

(Ài-yǎ!)

Orgy.

杂交。

Zá jiāo.

(Záh-jiōw.)

I'm coming!

我快高潮了！

Wǒ kuài gāo cháo le!

(Wǒ kwài gōw-chów lǚh!)

I've come!

我高潮了！

Wǒ gāo cháo le!

(Wǒ gōw-chów lǚh!)

I feel good!

我好爽！

Wó háo shuǎng!

(Wó hów shuǎng!)

Sometimes said after sex.

You do it so well!

你做得很好！

Nǐ zuò de hén hǎo!

(Nǐ dzuò-dǔh hún hǎw!)

You're brilliant!

你很厉害！

Ní hén lì hài!

(Ní hǔn lì-hǎi!)

I love you!

我爱你！

Wǒ ài nǐ!

(Wǒ ài nǐ!)

I don't want to leave you!

我不想离开你！

Wǒ bù xiǎng lí kāi nǐ!

(Wǒ bù shiǎng lí-kāi nǐ!)

I can't live without you!

我不能没有你！

Wǒ bù néng méi yǒu nǐ!

(Wǒ bù núng máy yó nǐ!)



One more time.

再来一次。

Zài lái yí cì.
(Dzài lái lí-tz.)

I'm pregnant.

我怀孕了。

Wǒ huái yùn le.
(Wǒ hwái-yuèn lǚh.)

Abortion

堕胎

Duò tāi
(Duò-tāi)

Let's get married!

我们结婚吧!

Wǒ men jié hūn ba!
(Wǒ-mèn jiéh-hwēn bǎ!)

I want to marry you!

我想嫁给你!

我想娶你!

Wó xiǎng jià géi nǐ!
(Wó shiǎng jiàh gáy ní!*)
Wó xiǎng qú nǐ!
(Wó shiǎng chóu nǐ!**))

* For women only.

** For men only.

I have a ...

我有…。

Wó yǒu...
(Wó yǒ...)

I don't have a ...

我没有…。

Wó méi yǒu...
(Wó máy yǒ...)

I want a ...

我要…。

Wǒ yào... .

(Wǒ yào... .)

I don't want a ...

我不要…。

Wǒ bú yào... .

(Wǒ bù-yào... .)

Girlfriend

女朋友

Nǚ péng yǒu

(Nǚ-péng-yǒu)

Boyfriend

男朋友

Nán péng yǒu

(Nán-péng-yǒu)

Wife

太太

Tài tai

(Tài-tai)

Husband

丈夫

Zhàng fū

(Zàng-fū)

I don't love you!

我不爱你!

Wǒ bù ài nǐ!

(Wǒ bù ài nǐ!)



I can't go out with you any more.

我不能再跟你出去了!

Wǒ bù néng zài gēn nǐ chū qù le!

(Wǒ bù néng zài gēn nǐ chū chù lǚh!)



I've got another lover.

我爱上另外一个人。

Wǒ ài shàng líng wài yí ge rén.
(Wǒ ài-shàng líng-wài í-gùh rén.)

I'm jealous of him/her.

我很嫉妒他 / 她。

Wó hěn jì dù tā.
(Wó hǔn jì-dù tā.)

Let's end our relationship!

结束我们的关系吧!

Jié shù wǒ men de guān xī ba!
(jiě-sù wǒ-mèn-dùh guān-shī
bǎ!)

I've got a sexual disease.

我中标了。

Wǒ zhòng biāo le.
(Wǒ jòng biāow lǚh.)

I've got ...

我有…。

Wó yǒu...
(Wó yǒ...)

You gave me ...

你传染…给我了!

Nǐ chuán rǎn... géi wǒ le!
(Nǐ chuán-rǎn... gáy wǒ lǚh!)

AIDS

艾滋病

Ài zì bìng
(Ài-dz bìng)

Herpes

疱疹

Pào zhěn
(Pòw-jǔn)

Gonorrhea

淋病

Lín bìng
(Lín-bìng)

Syphilis

梅毒

Méi dú
(Má-y-dú)

Whore, prostitute

妓女

Jì nǚ
(Jì-nǚ)

Vogue Expressions

8

I'm ugly but I'm tender.

我很丑，可是我很温柔。

Wó hén chǒu, kě shì wó hén
wēn róu.

(Wó hǔn tsòu, kǔh-shèr wó hǔn
wēn-ró.)

Usually said by men.

Sexy lady.

正点。

Zhèng diǎn.

(Jèn-diǎn.)

Very cute (fashionable).

很酷。

Hěn kù.

(Hǔn kù.)

**Person completely out
of style** (geek, hick).

乡巴佬。

Xiāng ba lǎo.

(Shiāng-bǎ lǎu.)

Stupid-looking person.

傻瓜。

Shá guā.

(Shiǎh guāh.)



A genius may look stupid. Dà zhì ruò yú.
大智若愚。(Dàh jèr ruò yíu.)

This is an old expression (not exactly in vogue), but is a nice comeback if anyone ever accuses you of looking stupid.

You've solved a problem. Bǎi píng.
摆平。(Bǎi píng.)

I want to make love. Wó shiáng dǎ pào.
我想打炮。(Wó shiáng dǎh pòw.)

Wrinkles by eyes. Yú wěi wén.
鱼尾纹。(Yíu-wǎy wén)

In the West such wrinkles are known by the slang "crow's feet," as if stepped on by such a bird, but the Chinese don't see it that way. They envision a fish whose body is your eye and whose tail is the wrinkles. The expression literally means "fishtail wrinkles."



FOR THE LOVE OF BASEBALL!

Many Chinese love to play baseball—so much so that they've come to refer to many things with baseball-related terminology—just like Americans.

First base (got a date)

一垒打

Yī léi dǎ.
(ĭ-láy-dǎh.)

Second base (held hands)

二垒打

Èr léi dǎ.
(Èr-láy-dǎh.)

Third base (*kissed and
fooled around a bit*)

三垒打

Sān léi dǎ.
(Sān-láy-dǎh.)

Home run (made love)

全垒打

Quán léi dǎ.
(Chuén-láy-dǎh.)

A RATING SYSTEM

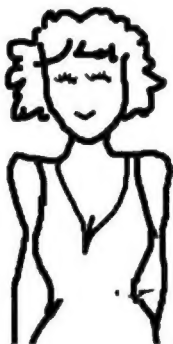
The Chinese are extremely polite people and are such even when young men are rating women. The following is used by men to categorize women by appearance.

She is very beautiful.

她很漂亮。

Tā hěn piào liàng.
(Tā hǔn piào-liàng.)

This is said of extremely beautiful women.



She is very cute.

她很可爱。

Tā hén kě ài.

(Tā hún kǎi-ài.)

This is said of women of moderate beauty.

She is very patriotic.

她很爱国。

Tā hén ài guó.

(Tā hún ài-guó.)

This is said of plain-looking women.

She obeys the rules well.

她很守规矩。

Tā hén shǒu guī jù.

(Tā hún shǒu guāy-jiu.)

This is said of ugly women.

Her writing is very beautiful.

她的字很漂亮。

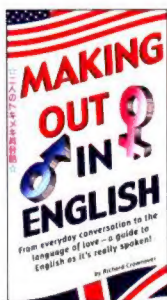
Tā de zì hěn piào liàng.

(Tā dǔn dǔ hún piào-liǎng.)

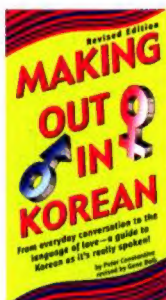
This is said of extremely ugly women.

The Making Out Phrase Book Series

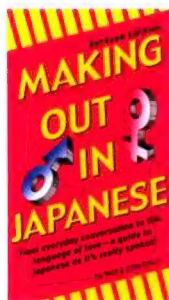
The books in the Making Out series are fun and accessible guides to languages as they're spoken on the street. These bestselling phrase books have been updated and expanded for use in informal situations such as bars, parties, or anywhere else one needs to know slang to survive!



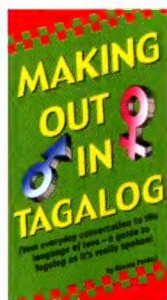
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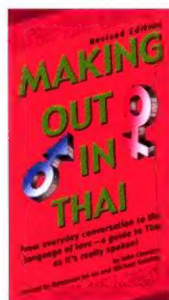
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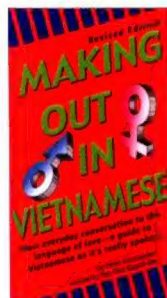
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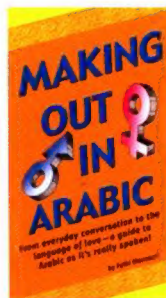
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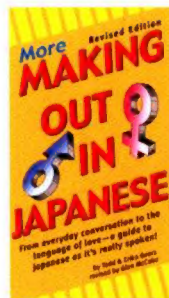
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